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**SACRAMENTO WOMEN SENTENCED TO FELONY PROBATION FOR MAKING  
FALSE STATEMENTS TO THE U.S. BANKRUPTCY TRUSTEE**

SACRAMENTO—United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that Sacramento resident Judith M. Smith, 53, was sentenced by the Honorable William B. Shubb, United States District Court Judge, to two years felony probation for making false statements to Antonia Darling, Assistant U.S. Bankruptcy Trustee, Office of the Trustee, Department of Justice in connection with a bankruptcy filing. She was also ordered to complete 100 hours of community service.

The case arose after the defendant falsely advised Ms. Darling on September 18, 2002, that a fraudulent bankruptcy had been filed in her daughter's name. The defendant met with Ms. Darling at the Office of the U.S. Trustee in the U.S. Courthouse on September 27, 2002, with her daughter to try to have the bankruptcy expunged. The defendant knowingly and falsely represented that a boarder in her home may have filed the bankruptcy out of vindictiveness. Both the defendant and her daughter executed declarations under penalty of perjury regarding the above facts, and falsely represented that neither of them had filed the bankruptcy petition.

The defendant admitted in court on July 2, 2003, that her statements to Ms. Darling were false and that she had in fact filed, or caused to be filed, four bankruptcy petitions, including the bankruptcy petition in question. Based on information from the defendant's creditors, it was determined that these bankruptcy petitions, including the one Ms. Smith claimed was fraudulently filed in her name, were faxed to the defendant's creditors to try to prevent them from turning off services at her residence.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Robin R. Taylor.

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